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TEXT OF TELEGRAM 81ISLAMA012732

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ACTION NEA-07

INFO	OCT-01	ADS-00	INR-10	EUR-12	SS-15	CIAE-00	EA-12
	DDE-00	H-01	IO-15	NSCE-00	NSAE-00	SSO-00	SY-05
	HA-06	L-03	PM-09	PA-02	INRE-00	ACDA-12	SSN-02
	ICAE-00	SYE-00	SP-02	SPRS-02	/116 W		

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FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7960  
INFO AMCONSUL KARACHI  
AMCONSUL LAHORE  
AMCONSUL PESHAWAR  
USMISSION NEW YORK  
USMISSION NEW DELHI  
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI  
AMEMBASSY BEIJING IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO  
AMEMBASSY DAKA  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY KABUL IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS ISLAMABAD 12732

CINCPAC FUR POLAD

E.O. 12065: N/A  
TAGS: SPAN, PEPR, MASS, XD, US, EG  
SUBJECT: (U) MFA SPOKESMAN RE SADAT COMMENTS  
ON ARMS SALE TO AFGHAN MUJAHIDEEN

REF: (U) ISLAMABAD 12532 (NOTAL)  
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1. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF A GOP PRESS INFORMATION  
DEPARTMENT (PID) HANDOUT DATED SEPTEMBER 28 QUOTING  
AN UNIDENTIFIED MFA SPOKESMAN ON PRESIDENT SADAT'S  
NBC INTERVIEW ON SHIPMENT OF ARMS TO THE AFGHAN  
MUJAHIDEEN. HEADLINE READS "PAKISTAN NOT INVOLVED IN  
SUPPLY OF ARMS TO AFGHAN MUJAHIDEEN."

2. QUOTE: A FOREIGN OFFICE SPOKESMAN, COMMENTING UPON

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/ODS/MB

REVIEWED BY ALB DATE 8/21/89

(X) RELEASE ( ) DECLASSIFY  
( ) REFUSE ( ) DECLASSIFY IN PART  
( ) DEFER ( ) DECLASSIFY ON INFO.

FOI, EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

CLASSIFICATION OF: SECRET  
( ) CONFIDENTIAL ( ) SECRET ( ) UNCLASSIFIED  
( ) DECLASSIFY TO: ( ) DATE: ( ) BY: OADR

SECRET

RECENT SPECULATION IN THE FOREIGN MEDIA THAT THE UNITED STATES HAD BEEN BUYING SOVIET ARMS FROM EGYPT FOR SUPPLYING THE AFGHAN MUJAHIDEEEN, STATED THAT AS FAR AS THE GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN WAS CONCERNED ITS POLICY IN THIS MATTER WAS VERY CLEAR AND REMAINED UNCHANGED. PAKISTAN HAD GIVEN SHELTER TO OVER 2.3 MILLION AFGHAN REFUGEES ON PURELY HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS.

3. WHEN HIS ATTENTION WAS DRAWN TO PRESIDENT ANWAR SAQAT'S INTERVIEW WITH NBC TELEVISION, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT PAKISTAN HAD NO DIRECT OR INDIRECT KNOWLEDGE OF ANY U.S.-EGYPTIAN ARRANGEMENT REPORTED.

4. THE SPOKESMAN TERMED THE REMARKS REPORTEDLY MADE BY SOME UNNAMED PERSONS INVOLVING PAKISTAN IN THIS MATTER AS TOTALLY BASELESS. HE ADDED THAT PAKISTAN CONTINUED TO OBSERVE A POLICY OF NON-INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF AFGHANISTAN AND WOULD NOT BECOME A CONDUIT OF ARMS FOR AFGHAN MUJAHIDEEEN.

5. THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT AS WIDELY REPORTED THE AFGHAN RESISTANCE WHICH WAS A PURELY INTERNAL PHENOMENON IN AFGHANISTAN HAD ENGULFED THE ENTIRE COUNTRY INCLUDING UNCLASSIFIED  
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AREAS ADJACENT TO THE SOVIET UNION. HE POINTED TO THE WELL KNOWN FACT THAT THERE HAD BEEN LARGE SCALE DESERTIONS AND DEFECTIONS FROM THE AFGHAN ARMED FORCES AND THE MEN HAD CARRIED AWAY THEIR WEAPONS. THERE WERE ALSO REPORTS OF WIDE-SCALE ATTACKS BY AFGHAN RESISTANCE GROUPS ON ARMS AND AMMUNITION DEPOTS WITHIN AFGHANISTAN.

6. IN ANSWER TO A QUESTION AS TO WHETHER THE GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN COULD NOT SEAL THE BORDER HE SAID THAT THIS WAS IMPRACTICABLE SINCE THE BORDER WAS ALMOST 1400 MILES LONG AND PASSED THROUGH VERY DIFFICULT MOUNTAINOUS TERRAIN. THERE WAS ALSO THE AGE-OLD TRADITION OF FREE MOVEMENT IN THE TRIBAL BELT ON THE BORDER BETWEEN PAKISTAN AND AFGHANISTAN. HE RECALLED, AS EVIDENCE OF ITS GOOD INTENTIONS, THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN HAD STATED REPEATEDLY THAT IT WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION IF THE AUTHORITIES ON THE OTHER SIDE WOULD SEAL THE BORDER THEMSELVES. UNQUOTE.

7. PID RELEASE WAS PROMINENTLY CARRIED IN MOST OF THE ENGLISH AND URDU PRESS ON SEPTEMBER 29.

8. KABUL MINIMIZE CONSIDERED.KING

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